

## **Historic, Archive Document**

**Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.**





# SUPPLEMENT

(To Bolles Dahlia List)



I thank you for your request for my catalog.

My list of dahlias is a choice one. I have been trying for years to grow the very best varieties that are low enough in price to be within the reach of the home gardener, and yet be varieties that produce flowers in abundance, of exceptional beauty of form and color. The prices are lower than most. I have grown flowers for twenty-five years, and love them so that I purposely make some prices lower than I could probably get, but do so to have others plant the varieties so priced, and enjoy them, I trust, as keenly as I do. If, after comparing my list, and my prices, you cared to send me a list of other flower lovers, I would be particularly grateful. I believe, with utmost sincerity, that my varieties and my prices are a privilege and a benefit to the home gardener. For years people have been paying what seems to me very high prices, and I resolved to change these conditions if I could.

My Prize-Box offer has been withdrawn till some future season, also the offer of tubers in return for lists of names. It was made in 1922, and was won by a college graduate, a specialist in science, with offices in Providence, R. I. Many letters were received from all over the country, filled with valuable suggestions, and time has not permitted adopting all of the best of them as yet.

The following named dahlias are dropped. My stocks are too small to continue listing, and I plan to replace them with more modern varieties: Their names appear upon remaining copies of Order Sheet; please do not order. Blue Oban, Corona, Diavola, Erica, Gaillardia, Melody, (the Decorative, not the Cactus), Mont Blanc, Queen Emma, Sylvia, and Yellow Livonia.

Beginning January first I am also sold out for 1923 of Jane Selby, Peg O' My Heart, Princess Pat, Queen of Roses, and San Mateo. Orders for any of these five dahlias for 1924 may be placed on or after September 1, 1923.

I guarantee my dahlias to be true to name, healthy, and vigorous. I exercise the greatest care in tagging in the field, and when harvesting, and in packing and shipping, personally supervising my assistants. Yet it is very human to make mistakes. Check up your order soon as received. If any errors in filling it be found please notify me at once, that I may promptly correct the mistake.

I guarantee that my tubers will start growing and thus prove that they are both alive and vigorous. When, because of some adverse circumstance that escapes the triple inspection to which each tuber is subjected before I send it out, a root fails to start I will replace it; this year if there is time, next season anyway. But I cannot guarantee that a dahlia plant will continue to grow, anywhere, and become an abounding success. With the best care I can give them not all of my thousands of plants succeed in my own fields. It is a risk that is incidental to gardening, and must be accepted by the customers of every nurseryman. After my roots in your possession have sprouted my responsibility is at an end, and I cannot replace them if they do not do well. I do replace, of course, those that do not come true to name because of mistake in shipping.

*Tag! Play the game safe—use aluminum tags*

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Please carefully note the broadness of the guarantee printed above and also the following, which are now conditions of sale of the most responsible nurserymen, and of Bolles Dahlias: "All contracts, sales, and acknowledgements of orders are contingent upon crop failures, partial deliveries by growers, strikes, or other unavoidable causes beyond control. All quotations are subject to market changes and goods being unsold on receipt of order. When, through accidents or errors varieties are not true to name they will be faithfully replaced, but no responsibility will be incurred by the seller save the price paid; no responsibility for the expected crop is assumed. If the customer does not accept the goods on these terms, they can be returned at once and no sale has been made. It must, however, be plain to everyone who gives the matter the slightest thought, that it is to the nurseryman's best interests to send out only such stock as will not only grow but prove true to name and description." Please order early. A deposit of one fifth the order is sufficient. Correspondence, and inquiries, are cordially invited, but April and May are the overwork season for nurserymen. Early orders, early inquiries, are most earnestly requested. Always afterwards, please, refer to the number of your order whenever you write.

My shipping season ends May 25, usually, and the next day stocks are hauled to the field. Please order early. Additions to your order can be sent later, but of course before the date you suggested as "about the time" for shipment. Please always answer the question as to time of shipment.

A dozen dahlias will be sold for the price of ten, six for the price of five, where the price is under \$1.00 All dahlias listed at a dollar or more are net, and on them no discount can be given.

Be sure and keep a copy of your order, to check-up when you receive the tubers.

### **TAGGING IS IMPORTANT**

The use of my aluminum, rustless, everlasting tags is most earnestly recommended. They end your tagging vexations. Why not order them when you order tubers, so they will arrive at same time? After the rain and bleaching sunshine of the growing season there will be no cussing and damning because names are unreadable and because the identity of varieties is lost—if you use aluminum tags. Why not equip your Roses, Iris, Glads, Peonies, Larkspurs, at the same time, before it is too late? Carefully print out your list of names (when you use my printed Dahlia list that is enough). I stamp the names upon the tags, one name upon each tag. Only two cents per tag for everlasting use makes the price as nothing—the certainty, convenience, satisfaction, is everything to the self-respecting gardener. There is no discount upon tags, whether ten or ten hundred are ordered. They can be wired to stakes or stalks. Some gardeners tack them to small billets of wood, which are nailed or wired to stakes. This is a combination that can be made very attractive. Sample mailed for four cents.

*Growing from seed will bring fun—fame and fortune, perhaps*

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## RAISING DAHLIAS FROM SEED

### You Can Create New Dahlias

Raising dahlias from seed is "an exciting adventure" and one every amateur and home gardner should enjoy. Almost every bloom will be interesting, even beautiful. Not a few amateurs work up a stock of tubers that way, and very acceptable they prove as a source of cut-flowers for home decoration. Neighbors, also, take a fancy to the varieties so produced, and buy the roots eagerly. While a great many of the blooms that come from seed are no better than existing sorts, and some are inferior, you can create new dahlias. Every autumn some seedling grower is rewarded with a flower the fame of which will eventually be sounded from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Amateurs and commercial growers dream of producing new creations in dahlias that will bring both fame and money. There are many prizes for breeders of new varieties. No dahlia enthusiast ever had dahlias enough.

My Booklet No. 3, Propagation of the Dahlia, takes up the growing of both seeds and seedlings. Tells how to plant the seeds in flats and boxes, or cold frame; how to care for the tiny seedlings; how to transplant them; how to register your seedling flower, if you produce one worth while; and how to grow seed from your own blooms, and how to borrow fertilizing pollen from the best blooms of your neighbors.



These Dahlias were all grown in the State of New York from one \$3.00 package of Fenton's Hybridized Dahlia Seed

It takes up the problem of producing a blue dahlia; for which everlasting fame and fortune awaits the successful grower. It tells how to choose the mother flower for the production of a wonder child. It tells you how to cross-fertilize flowers by hand. It makes you familiar with the probabilities and the many encouragements that hearten the would-be creator of new and worthwhile dahlias. This booklet gives all these things fascinatingly, yet scientifically.

While seeds are usually sown in flats, in a sunny window, or in a cold frame, they can with entire success be sown in the open garden at corn planting time, or a little earlier, and will produce fine plants that will bear both blooms and tubers before late September. Where frosts come early seeds should be started in April.

I grow seed, and offer it, and also that produced by the best eastern growers, from fine Cactus, Peony, and large double Decorative flowering blooms, per packet of 250 mixed seeds . . . . . 50 cents

### CALIFORNIA GROWN SEED

Change of climate is one of the great causes of variation in plant life. For this reason, and also because the best and most careful growers of seed on the Pacific coast select the finest and largest blooms for their seed production, I recommend and offer California grown seed, which will be sent directly from the growers, fresh and warranted. Orders should be early, for two weeks must be allowed for the transmission of your order, and the mailing of the seed.

Seed grown by E. A. ASMUS

One hundred seeds, private stock	\$3.00
Fifty seeds, private stock . . .	\$1.50

(Pompon Dahlia Seeds)

One hundred seeds . . . . .	\$1.50
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### FENTON'S HYBRIDIZED DAHLIA SEED—"The World's Best"

One hundred seeds . . . . .	\$3.00
Fifty seeds . . . . .	\$1.50

### ARCHER'S GARDENS, Hand Hybridized

Fifty seeds . . . . .	\$2.00
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### ARCHER'S SEEDS, from very best varieties, but not hand-crossed

Trade Packet . . . . .	\$1.00
Smaller Packet . . . . .	.50
Home Garden Packet . . . . .	.25

### ASMUS HAND HYBRIDIZED DAHLIA SEED

Mr. E. A. Asmus, Belvedere, California, says: This seed is raised from California's finest and largest prize-winning varieties—the finest in the world. This mixture contains all flowering types and colors.

*All Bolles Booklets are fifty cents and worth more*

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Our rainless California summers in the vicinity of San Francisco Bay makes it possible to produce hybridized seed of the very highest quality. The seed we have sent out in previous years has produced many superior varieties. The seedlings will commence to flower two months earlier than plants raised from tubers.

#### **ARCHER'S GARDENS DAHLIA SEED**

Mr. Archer, Los Angeles, California, says: I am this year preparing two grades of seed. From the hand-hybridized seed one should get the very best possible results. The quantity of this seed will be limited. It is from selected varieties that I have found to make the best parents.

My other seed is from the very best varieties in their class, the seed of each flowering class kept separately, each sort in its own packet. California's long season, affording ample time for growing and maturing, puts into the dahlia seed the greatest possible health and vitality. Dahlia seed grown in California is considered the best obtainable. Archer's seed is produced in a garden where the blooms have the best, and only the best, varieties for companions; the seed thus obtained is sure to be of the best.

#### **FENTON'S HYBRIDIZED DAHLIA SEED**

Mr. Fenton, San Francisco, California, says: I hybridize, on my new seedlings, dahlias that no one else has. I use only dahlias that stand up and look you straight in the eye. I always hybridize as to color; which was taught me by an artist; who inspects my results yearly. I hybridize like no man on earth hybridizes. I have heard all our professors speak on hybridization and none of them hybridize as I do. Why do I use Black Pearl as one of my best for hybridizing? Because it is the most perfect dahlia on earth. You do not have to stake it; the flower stands 18 inches above the foliage; color jet black in the bud and half open flowers; when fully open it turns a shade lighter. It is the best keeper of them all. It is peony type, 9 to 11 inches in diameter. My seed is the world's best.

#### **BOLLES DAHLIA BOOKLETS NOW FIFTY CENTS EACH**

These Booklets have been written to help those who like dahlias. The writer rather give his blooms away than sell them, and the same temper of mind prompted him to write from his years of experience and many years of study. The booklets were first published at 25 cts. and it was hoped that this would allow every dahlia grower to enjoy them. The price was set before they were printed. The printer's bill, the engraver's bill, and later the advertising bill, showed that the books could not be delivered for 25 cents. Then the price was raised to 35 cents. Advertising costs increased, clerk hire not at first considered had to be added, the big double numbers cost a good deal more, and it was found that even 35 cts. would not suffice to meet expenses. Each Booklet is now Fifty Cents. Booklet number two will not be printed, there being no demand for it. They are returnable, and money back,

next mail. Order by number. No. 3, Propagation of the Dahlia; No. 4, Cultivation of the Dahlia; No. 6, Fertilizers and Large Blooms; No. 8, Harvesting and Storage. Three others, unavoidably delayed, will be ready, I trust, June 1, 1923. No. 1, History of the Dahlia; No. 5, Dahlia Growing Commercially; No. 7, The Enemies and Pests of Dahlias.

These booklets, written by an American grower for American amateurs and professionals, for American conditions of climate, soils and markets, are indispensable to all dahlia lovers, whether they are growing for the joy of it, or for exhibition, or growing commercially.

Only fifty cents each. These Booklets are really de luxe editions. They are not cheap little pamphlets. They measure 5 x 7½ inches, are beautifully printed upon a most attractively surfaced paper, of artistic appearance and value. They are well illustrated. They are bound in a heavy, colored cover with the title not merely printed, but placed in a die-sunk panel with a specially tinted surface, of different color than rest of the cover. The Booklets are gift books in appearance and in the unusual quality of the different papers used in their printing, and in their fine printing from type cast expressly for each book and never used before, giving a clear, perfect print. The publisher considers them valuable enough to send them to you in a specially prepared Kraft envelope of more than usual strength, to protect these beautiful specimens of the printer's craftsmanship while passing through the mails. They are suitable, beautiful gifts for birthday and Christmas.

Booklet No. 3 explains in great detail the three ways dahlias are propagated (multiplied); tells how fifty plants of an expensive variety may be obtained from a single clump; tells how the amateur, as well as the professional, may grow seeds that may produce dahlias that will become world-famous. This booklet also has an entire section devoted to the main principles of plant breeding. Many amateurs and not a few commercial growers dream of producing new creations in dahlias that will bring them both fame and money. There are many prizes in the future for breeders of new varieties. A double number fifty cents.

With dahlias cultivation is more important than anything else, perhaps more important than all else put together. Certain it is cultivation is more important than either soil, or fertilizer. Booklet No. 4, therefore, is a double number, and sells for fifty cents. It goes into cultivation from A to Z; tells when, where, how, and why as to planting and cultivation. There is most emphatically a right and a wrong way, and many there be that plant wrongly, and mournfully contemplate their failure. Tells how Florida leads all the States with 275 dahlia growing days; that Nevada, Idaho, and Wyoming have only 90 growing days; and tells you how many dahlia growing days each of the other States enjoys. This Booklet explains the "mystery" of the all-important dust mulch; tells why three-feet deep digging of the soil is ever so much better than only six inches; answers the question as to shade and sunshine in location; goes into the matter of water supply (one of the chief sources of dahlia success or failure); gives advice about tags; what is meant by disbudding, and why it is so necessary with the dahlia.

Booklet No. 5 tells about growing of dahlias commercially. Tells how to start with small capital, how to increase stocks for planting; how the cut flowers, and the tubers, are marketed; and some of the difficulties and some of the successes of the business; as well as the field practices of commercial growers in cultivating the dahlia.

Booklet No. 6, Fertilizers and Large Blooms, goes at great length into this important matter. Explains the use of lime, the value of bone meal, and other fertilizers, tells which fertilizers are better than others, gives the exact amounts to be used per acre, per yard, and per square foot, and for each tuber. Goes fully into the problem of the water supply; explains how to grow prize winning, gigantic, exhibition blooms; how to prepare the blooms after they have been grown, so that they will be fit for the Dahlia Show exhibition tables, and defines what constitutes the amateur, the professional, and the semi-professional exhibitor. An altogether indispensable little book for the dahlia grower, whether amateur, or professional.

Booklet No. 7 deals with the Enemies and Pests of Dahlias, and gives the remedies. The blasting of flower buds, mildew, blight, plants that have stopped growing and remain poor stunted things; insects, etc. If you escaped most dahlia tribulations last year they may come upon you unawares another season. This Booklet means preparedness; means information so you can recognize the troubles when they appear; apply the remedies; and save your plants. You cannot afford to grow dahlias another season without this Booklet upon your library shelf.

Booklet No. 8 may save your crop of tubers. "A really remarkable treatise upon Harvesting and Storage" writes a nationally known horticultural expert. Beginning with the digging of the tubers, giving practical, workable advice and sounding very necessary warnings, this Booklet takes the grower from the first killing frost of autumn through the winter, and up to dividing and planting time in the spring. It tells what kind of cellars, rooms, sheds, barns, are suitable for winter storage; and how to pack, cover, protect the precious roots, and carry them safely through the winter. There are pictures of worthless, broken-necked tubers, the result of ignorance or carelessness, that will wring your heart, if you have a drop of Scotch blood in you, and deplore waste and loss. There are also pictures of solid, plump tubers, as firm and fine as the day they were dug, from photographs taken in May and June of roots properly stored all winter, and coming through in vigorous condition for the making of robust sprouts for the new season's crop of plants.

All the booklets are profusely and beautifully illustrated. Any one of them, or all of them, will be sent upon receipt of price, returnable after reading, and your money back in the next mail. So far not a single copy has been returned; instead buyers of one or two of the booklets have written "send me all the others as fast as they are printed." Order one or more today; read them; and if you care to return them your money will be sent back to you by return mail.

*Send your order in early, while stock is complete*

## FIVE THOUSAND DAHLIAS IN CULTIVATION

Prof. J. B. S. Norton, the well known dahlia expert, has issued an indispensable book with this title. It gives names, originators or introducers, class and color, as far as known, of the five thousand named dahlias now grown. You need this book, whether you issue a catalog, grow commercially or as an amateur, particularly if you have seedlings to name. Full of information, it will help you avoid errors in nomenclature. Contains blank leaves for new names of dahlias, your own, or others. Price \$2. Order of J. B. S. Norton, Box B, Hyattsville Md., or of me.

## HANDSOME LABELS FROM STENCILS

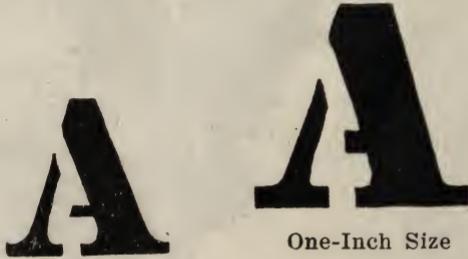
I supply handsome brass stencil alphabets, which include Comma, Period, Apostrophe, Space, beginner and ender blanks, also character &. Each brass letter has a slotted edge, so the letters can be linked rigidly into a line to form a word, thus spacing the letter accurately, and rendering the finished label attractive to the most critical eye. The stencil is laid upon the plant stake, or wooden label, or sign board, the letters traced with a pencil and then hand-painted with a very small brush; or completely printed by a few strokes with a stencil brush or a sponge and stencil ink. These stencils are invaluable for making signs such as "No Trespassing"—"Keep off the Grass"—"No Admittance"—and labelling chests, tools, "Roadside Market" price lists, announcements. They save printing and sign painting expenses. Put a set into the hands of the young folks; they will do the rest for you.

Prices, postpaid: One and one-quarter inch alphabet \$1.30; One-inch alphabet \$1.20; Three-quarter inch \$1.15; One-half inch \$1.15. Cake of stencil ink, with sponge 50c. Stencil brush, one-half inch diameter, 30c. Brush is shaped like a shaving brush, but with the brushing surface trimmed flat, like a shoe brush.

Sets of figure stencils consist of 15 pieces. 1234567890\$.c and beginner and ender plates. Price in either  $1\frac{1}{4}$ , 1,  $\frac{3}{4}$ , or  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch size, to match the alphabet sets, 55 cents, postpaid.



Putting Stencil Together



**CHARLTON B. BOLLES, MEDIA, PENN.**